

uncompressed portions to provide enhanced interactive multimedia information to the user.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 13, 27-30, and 37-39.

Please replace claim 1 with new claim 40.

Sub C2 → 40. A communications system for transmitting interactive multimedia information over a communication medium having limited bandwidth, the system comprising:

interactive multimedia mastering (IMM) system means for receiving multimedia program materials from a program source, the IMM system including means for optimizing the program materials by separating the information into primary and secondary layers using psychographic parameters to differentiate between important and less important multimedia information, the optimized program materials including a plurality of program branches where each of the branches allows a plurality of functions and data to be accessed in order to replicate the program source;

a multimedia call processing system (MCPS) coupled to the IMM for receiving and distributing the optimized program materials from the IMM; and

a plurality of interactive multimedia devices (IMDs) for receiving the optimized program materials from the MCPS, the plurality of the IMDs including means for accepting user commands for multimedia information and for responsively transmitting a control signal to the MCPS,

the MCPS including a voice mode means responsive to the control signal for branching to a program branch in the optimized program materials indicated by the control signal, the MCPS including means for switching to a data mode for transmitting data from the indicated program branch back to the at least one of the plurality of IMDs and then switching back to the voice mode to accept further control signals from the at least one of the plurality of IMDs, whereby only selected portions of the optimized program materials are sent from the MCPS to the IMDs thereby reducing the bandwidth required to transmit the multimedia program materials.

[Please replace claim 27 with new claim 41.]

41. An interactive multimedia system for providing interactive multimedia information to a user over a communication network, the system comprising:

an interactive multimedia mastering system (IMMS) including, means for separating multimedia information into primary and secondary layers based upon a program model,

means for enhancing the layers in accordance with the program model to enhance user interactivity of the multimedia information, the layers being enhanced through selective use of an objective quality standard and a subjective quality standard, wherein the objective quality standard includes metrics of the quality of the layers, and the subjective quality standard is controlled by the user,

means for compressing at least a portion the enhanced  
layers creating compressed layers and uncompressed layers, and

50 means for transmitting the compressed and uncompressed  
layers over the communication medium; and

an interactive multimedia device (IMD) including,

communication means for receiving the compressed and  
uncompressed layers from the communication medium,

55 memory means for storing the compressed and  
uncompressed layers,

means for decompressing the compressed layers,

means for mixing the decompressed layers with the  
uncompressed layers, and

60 means for interactively controlling the communication  
means, memory means, decompressing means, and mixing means to  
provide enhanced interactive multimedia information to a display.

Claim 2, page 39, line 3,

delete "1" and insert --40--

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Claim 3, page 39, line 6,

delete "1" and insert --40--

Claim 4, page 39, line 9,

70 delete "1" and insert --40--

Claim 5, page 39, line 13,

delete "1" and insert --40--

75 Claim 28, page 43,  
line 7, delete "27" and insert --41--  
line 9, delete "the"

80 Claim 29, page 43, line 10,  
delete "27" and insert --41--

Claim 29, page 43, line 13,  
delete "27" and insert --41--

85 31. (Once amended) A system for interactively providing  
enhanced information related to a communication network, the  
network including a first set of program source materials that is  
produced for a user, the network further including a second set  
of program source material that is related to the first set of  
90 program source material, the second set of program source  
material is stored in a separate location than the first set of  
program source material, the system comprising:

means for linking the first set of program source material  
with the second set of program source material in  
95 synchronization, the first set of program source material being a  
different media type than the second set of program source  
material;